AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) A method of analyzing a multimedia data object that is adapted for rendering on an electronic device, the method comprising:

identifying a transmission rate;

prior to transmission of the multimedia data object to a receiving device targeted to display the multimedia data object, determining a buffer time based upon the transmission rate and at least one characteristic of the multimedia data object; and

indicating the buffer time.

22. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein the characteristic includes a presentation requirement of the multimedia data object.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 21, additionally comprising transmitting the buffer time from a server computer to a client computer.

24. (Currently amended) A method of analyzing a multimedia data object that is adapted for rendering on an electronic device, the method comprising:

identifying a transmission rate;

determining a buffer time based upon the transmission rate and at least one characteristic of the multimedia data object; and

indicating the determined buffer time; and

transmitting the indicated buffer time size from a server computer to a client computer.

25. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 24 21, wherein the characteristic includes a presentation requirement of the multimedia data object.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) An electronic device, comprising:

a data object;

a display; and

a component configured to:

~~analyze the data object~~ identify a transmission rate;

determine a buffer size or time that is used for buffering data from the data object on another device based upon the identified transmission rate and at least one characteristic of the data object, wherein the buffer size or time is determined prior to transmission of the data object; and

display the ~~a~~ buffer size or time ~~that is used for buffering data on another electronic device~~.

28. (Original) The electronic device of Claim 27, wherein the component displays a consumption graph on the display.

29. (Original) The electronic device of Claim of Claim 28, wherein the electronic device modifies the consumption graph based upon a provided transmission rate.

30. – 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) A screen display, comprising:

an area for displaying data consumption characteristics of a multi-media object having non-uniform consumption characteristics; and

an area for displaying a buffer time for transmitting the multi-media object,

wherein the buffer time is determined based upon an identified transmission rate and at least one characteristic of the multi-media object, and

wherein the buffer time is determined prior to transmission of the multi-media object to a receiving device targeted to display the multi-media object.

35. (Original) The screen display of Claim 34, wherein the buffer time indicates a duration of time that must pass in which an electronic device receives portions of the multi-media data object at a target transmission rate before the before the multi-media object is presented to a user.

36. (Currently amended) The screen display of Claim 34 ~~30~~, wherein the screen display is displayed by an electronic device.

37. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein indicating the buffer time comprises displaying the buffer time.

38. (New) The method of Claim 37, wherein displaying the buffer time comprises graphically displaying the buffer time.

39. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein indicating the buffer time comprises indicating the buffer time in a header of the multimedia data object.

40. (New) The method of Claim 21, wherein indicating the buffer time comprises incrementing a time stamp.

41. (New) The method of Claim 22, further comprising indicating the presentation requirement as a function of time.

42. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein the presentation requirement comprises a data consumption requirement at a plurality of locations of the multimedia data object.

43. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein indicating the determined buffer time comprises displaying the determined buffer time.

44. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein displaying the determined buffer time comprises graphically displaying the determined buffer time.

45. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein indicating the determined buffer time comprises indicating the determined buffer time in a header of the multimedia data object.

46. (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein indicating the determined buffer time comprises incrementing a time stamp.

47. (New) The method of Claim 25, further comprising indicating the presentation requirement as a function of time.

48. (New) The method of Claim 25, wherein the presentation requirement comprises a data consumption requirement at a plurality of locations of the multimedia data object.

49. (New) The device of Claim 27, wherein the characteristic includes a presentation requirement of the data object.

53. (New) The device of Claim 49, wherein the component is further configured to display the presentation requirement as a function of time.

54. (New) The device of Claim 49, wherein the presentation requirement comprises a data consumption requirement at a plurality of locations of the multimedia data object.

55. (New) The screen display of Claim 34, wherein the characteristic includes a presentation requirement of the data object.

56. (New) The screen display of Claim 55, further comprising an area for displaying the presentation requirement as a function of time.

57. (New) The screen display of Claim 55, wherein the presentation requirement comprises a data consumption requirement at a plurality of locations of the multimedia data object.